

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN CULTURAL SPECIALIST OLIMP VARASTEANU

REF: BUCHAREST 6682

1. VARASTEANU RETURNS TO BUCHAREST FEBRUARY 18 ON TAROM 302 AFTER EXTENSIVE, HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM.
2. HIGHLIGHT OF VISIT WAS TWO-WEEK STAY IN LOS ANGELES WHERE VARASTEANU WAS WARMLY RECEIVED AT HANNA-BARBARA STUDIOS WHERE PRODUCTION MANAGER SPENT GREATER PART OF THE DAY WITH HIM IN DETAILED PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSIONS. ALSO MET STUDIO FOUNDER BILL HANNA. AT UCLA FILM DEPARTMENT VARASTEANU SAW NUMEROUS STUDENT FILMS AND PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL LECTURES. HERE AS WELL AS AT CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF ARTS, ANIMATORS SHOWED INTEREST IN EXCHANGING FILMS WITH ROMANIA, AND VARASTEANU GAVE THEM CAO'S NAME AND ADDRESS AS POINT OF CONTACT.
3. SAN FRANCISCO PROGRAM WAS NEARLY AS PROFITABLE. VARASTEANU HAD PARTICULARLY USEFUL DISCUSSIONS AT IMAGINATION INC. WHICH EXTENDED INTO DINNER AT HOME OF FIRM'S PRESIDENT.
4. IN MINNESOTA ALTHOUGH SCHOOL WAS JUST REOPENING AFTER HOLIDAYS, VARASTEANU SPENT TWO DAYS AT UNIVERSITY

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PAGE 02 STATE 037922

OF MINNESOTA COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN. NEW YORK STAY

CONCLUDED PROGRAM WITH PARTICULARLY WARM RECEPTION AT
USIA MOTION PICTURE SERVICE, AND VARASTEANU REGRETTED
HE HAD ONLY ONE WEEK THERE.

5. IF THERE WERE ANY WEAKNESSES IN PROGRAM, PERHAPS
IT WAS IN SANTA FE WHERE SIMPLY WERE NOT ENOUGH THINGS
TO DO AFTER POINTS OF INTEREST ABOUT INDIAN ART HAD
BEEN EXHAUSTED. VARASTEANU WAS EASY TO HANDLE, AND
ESCORT REPORTS NO PROBLEMS WHATSOEVER WERE ENCOUNTERED.

6. COMMENT: POST MAY BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT VARASTEANU VISIT
IN ENCOURAGING FILM EXCHANGES CALLED FOR UNDER ARTICLE III
OF PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES. INGERSOLL

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